

CLAIM SUMMARY DOCUMENT:

1-11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) A method of humidifying material, comprising the steps of:

introducing material into an annular space between a first rotatable cylinder having an inlet end and an outlet end and a plurality of first blades extending substantially radially outwardly from an exterior surface of the first cylinder and a second rotatable cylinder having an inlet end and an outlet end and a plurality of second blades extending substantially radially inwardly from an interior surface of the second cylinder, the second cylinder being substantially coaxial with the first cylinder and the first cylinder being disposed inside of the second cylinder such that the exterior surface of the first cylinder and the interior surface of the second cylinder define the annular space;

rotating the first cylinder and the second cylinder such that, as the second cylinder is rotated, material falls from at least some of the second blades onto the first cylinder and, as the first cylinder rotates, material falls from at least some of the first blades onto the second cylinder;

conveying material in the annular space from the inlet end of the first cylinder and the inlet end of the second cylinder toward the outlet end of the first cylinder and the outlet end of the second cylinder; and

applying moisture to material in the annular space.

13. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 12, wherein different amounts of moisture are applied to the material at different locations in the annular space.
14. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 12, wherein moisture is applied to the material in the annular space as atomized droplets.
15. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 12, wherein the first cylinder and the second cylinder are rotated by a common drive.
16. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein the first cylinder and the second cylinder are rotated in a same direction.
17. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 12, wherein the first cylinder is rotated by a first drive and the second cylinder is rotated by a second drive.
18. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 17, wherein the first cylinder and the second cylinder are rotated in a same direction.
19. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 12, wherein the first cylinder and the second cylinder are rotated at a same rotational speed.

20. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 12, wherein material is conveyed in the annular space from the inlet end of the first cylinder and the inlet end of the second cylinder toward the outlet end of the first cylinder and the outlet end of the second cylinder by gravity.